Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A data network node enforcing flow control in forwarding data traffic over data networking facilities of a private data networking environment, the data network node comprising:

    a. a plurality of input ports, at least one input port being designated as a public access input port; and

    b. a lookup table providing associations between input ports and service level specifiers, a service level specifier associated with the at least one public access input port specifying a predetermined level of service for the conveyance of public access data traffic; and

    c. a controller modifying headers of Protocol Data Units received via the public access input port to ascribe the predetermined level of service thereto.

2.   (Original)   A data network node as claimed in claim 1, wherein the service level specifier further designates the at least one input port as an input port conveying public access data traffic.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Currently Amended) A data network node as claimed in claim [[3]] 2, wherein each one of the plurality of input ports is associated one of a plurality of service level specifiers.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently Amended) A data network node as claimed in claim [[5]] 1, wherein the lookup table is included in a switching database associated with the data network node.

7.   (Currently Amended) A method of enforcing flow control in forwarding data traffic over data networking facilities of a private data networking environment, the method comprising steps of:

a. determining an input port via which a Payload Data Unit (PDU) was received, from a plurality of input ports of a multi-ported data network;

b. irrespective whether each PDU carries a level of service specification, selectively assigning a predetermined level of service to a Payload Data Unit (the P DU) if an the input port on via which the PDU was received is designated as conveying public access data traffic of a particular access type; and

c [[b]]. forwarding the PDU according to the level of service associated therewith with the particular access type.

8.   (Canceled)

9.   (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim [[8]] 7, wherein assigning the predetermined level of service the method further comprises a step of querying a database using as a key an input port identifier associated with the input port.

10.   (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim [[8]] 7, wherein assigning a predetermined level of service to the PDU, the method further comprises a step of determining the access type associated with the input port.

11.   (Original)   A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein determining the access type ascribed to the input port the method further comprises a step of querying a database using as a key an input port identifier associated with the input port.

12.   (Original)   A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein assigning a predetermined level of service to the PDU, the method further comprises a step of determining the predetermined level of service.

13.   (Original)   A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein determining the predetermined level of service, the method further comprises a step of querying a database using as a key an input port identifier associated with the input port.

14.   (Original)   A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein determining the predetermined level of service, the method further comprises a step of querying a database using as a key the access type associated with the input port.

15.   (New)   A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the access type is one of a public access type and a private access type.